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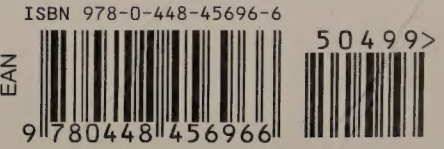

Strawberry Shortcake™

The Valentine's Day Mix-Up

By Amy Ackelsberg
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It was the day before Valentine's Day!

Strawberry Shortcake and her friends were headed to Blueberry's bookstore to make valentines for one another.

"I can't wait for the party tomorrow," said Lemon Meringue as she sprinkled glitter on her valentines.

"Everyone in Berry Bitty City is going to be there!" exclaimed Orange Blossom.

"It's going to be berry fun!" agreed Blueberry Muffin as she cut out paper hearts.

"We should work on our dance moves before the party," said Plum Pudding.
"What a berry sweet idea!" replied Raspberry Torte.
"Let's hurry up and get our valentines to the post office!" said Strawberry.

When the girls arrived at the post office, they found Postmaster Bumblebee surrounded by lots of mail.

"Postmaster Bee, you have so many valentines to deliver!" exclaimed Orange.

"Looks like Berry Bitty City has lots of love to go around!" said Raspberry.

"It's a big job, but I can handle it," replied Postmaster Bee.
Then the girls handed Postmaster Bee their valentines.
"See you at the party tomorrow!" the girls called as they left the post office.

The next day was Valentine's Day!
Postmaster Bee slung his mailbags over his shoulders.
Then he headed along his route through town.

Everyone in Berry Bitty City got lots of valentines.
Everyone except . . .

. . . Strawberry Shortcake!

She waited and waited, but she didn't get a single valentine.

"Hmm," wondered Strawberry. "Maybe my friends were so busy that they forgot about me."

Suddenly she felt a tug on her leg.
"Hello, Pupcake," said Strawberry. "Hello, Custard."
Then Pupcake dropped a card at Strawberry's feet.
"At least someone remembered me," said Strawberry.

That afternoon, Strawberry went for a walk. Along the way, she saw Mr. Longface Caterpillar.

"Love is in the air," said Mr. Longface. "I've received so many wonderful valentines today!"

"That's nice," replied Strawberry. She hurried home before he could see her frown.

Then Strawberry ran into Lemon and Blueberry.
"Happy Valentine's Day!" cried Blueberry.
"See you at the party!" said Lemon.
"Yeah, see you later," said Strawberry.

That evening, Strawberry went to the Valentine's Day party.
When she got there, the party was in full swing.

"Come dance with us, Strawberry!" called Plum.
"Maybe in a minute," replied Strawberry. She didn't feel like dancing.

Instead of joining her friends, Strawberry helped Mr. Longface with the music.

Then she gave Kadiebug a hand with the food and drinks.

When Lemon and Orange went to get a snack, they spotted Strawberry. "Oh, Strawberry, there you are!" exclaimed Lemon. "Where have you been all night?"

"Umm . . . ," said Strawberry. She still felt very sad.
"Strawberry, is something wrong?" asked Orange.
Before Strawberry could reply, someone called her name.

"Strawberry!" Postmaster Bee hollered as he ran toward her. "There was a mix-up with your mail today. I have something for you!" he said. Then he handed her the berry biggest valentine ever!

The card read: "To a supersweet girl who's kind and true. Strawberry, everyone needs a friend like you!"

It was signed by Plum, Lemon, Orange, Blueberry, and Raspberry.

"This is from all of you?" Strawberry asked.

"Oh, Strawberry! If you are just getting your mail now, you must have thought that we all forgot about you!" cried Raspberry. "Is that why you've been avoiding us all night?"

"Well . . . yes," admitted Strawberry.

"Why didn't you tell us?" asked Plum. "We could have explained that it was all a big mistake. Then you wouldn't have felt sad all day!"

"Strawberry, you can always tell us how you're feeling," added Blueberry. "That's what friends are for!"

"You're right," said Strawberry. "I should have known you wouldn't leave me out."

She gave her friends a big hug.

"I'm glad the day isn't over yet," Strawberry told them. "There's still time to party with my berry best valentines!"

Be My Valentine!

Berry Best Friends Forever!

Tutti Fruity Cutie!

Let's Dance!

To:

From:

© TCFC

To:

From:

© TCFC

To:

From:

© TCFC

To:

From:

© TCFC

Strawberry Shortcake and all her friends are planning to have the berry best Valentine's Day. But when the mail arrives on Valentine's Day, Strawberry doesn't get a single card. How can Strawberry get into the friendly spirit of the holiday when her friends forget all about her?

AMERICAN GREETINGS

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22